



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

50

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/692,351 | 10/19/2000 | Thomas Anthony Gregg | AUS9-2000-0628-US1 | 6897 |
| 35525 | 7590 | 01/14/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| IBM CORP (YA) C/O YEE & ASSOCIATES PC P.O. BOX 802333 DALLAS, TX 75380 | | | SIDDIQI, MOHAMMAD A | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2154 | |

DATE MAILED: 01/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/692,351

Applicant(s)

GREGG ET AL.

Examiner

Mohammad A Siddiqi

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/21/04, 5/7/04, 8/16/04
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-23 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shah et al. (6,694,361) (hereinafter Shah) in view of "Official Notice".
4. AS per claims 1, 9, and 17, Shah discloses a method, program and system for routing data packets to multiple partitions (partition manager, col 7, lines 37-41) within a single end node, comprising:
assigning a range of local identification addresses (LIDs) to a channel adapter port an end node (elements, fig 6, col 8, lines 42-51); and

assigning value (col 10, lines 49-54) within the local identification addresses to specify which of several partitions within the end node is being addressed (each port can be uniquely identified, col 8, lines 42-51). Shah, however, does not explicitly disclose assigning bits within the LIDS. "Official Notice " is taken that the concept of control bit masking is well known in the art. One of the ordinary skill in the art would readily recognize that creating a control mask and assigning LIDS to the bits (an arrangement of bits in a word or register that assigns logical significance to corresponding bits in other words) would need optimize processing and the routing. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the teaching of Shah with well known concept of bit masking and assigning bits to channels. The motivation would have been assigning mapping lids with bits for optimal routing path finding.

5. As per claims 2, and 10, claims are rejected for the similar reasons as claim 1 above. In addition, Shah discloses the bits are lower order bits (col 10, lines 49-54).

6. As per claims 3, 11, and 18, Shah discloses the channel adapter port is connected to a system area network (624, fig 6).

7. As per claims 4, 12, and 19, Shah discloses the network contains two raised to the N power end nodes, switches, and routers (fig 6); and

the number of bits in local identification address equals N (cluster, fig 6, col 24-40).

8. As per claims 5, 13, and 20, claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. Shah discloses the lower order bits assigned to partitions are designated by a local identification mask control (LMC) field (multiple of 16, col 10, lines 49-54).

9. As per claims 6, 14, and 21, claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. Shah discloses the local identification mask control can be any number of bits (multiple of 16, col 10, lines 49-54).

10. As per claims 7, 15, and 22, claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. Shah discloses the number of lower order bits assigned to addressing within a port is up to two raised to the local identification mask control power (multiple of 16, col 10, lines 49-54).

11. As per claims 8, 16, and 23, Shah discloses the different local identification addresses of a port identify different partitions (col 8, lines 42-51).

Response to Arguments

12. Applicant's arguments, with respect to claims 1-23 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection dated 02/04/2004 has been withdrawn.

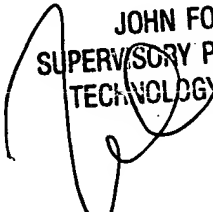
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad A Siddiqi whose telephone number is (571) 272-3976. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MAS

JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100